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Wednesday
October 1, 1952

E

EXCISE

Staff meeting.

I appeared with Carl Humelsine before the Bureau of the Budget. I was asked not to explain any of the figures in our budget request for next year but to give an account of our present foreign policy and what problems it presented. This I attempted to do with a discretion into the next year and a half.

B1, E3 EC+

When I returned to the office, I saw Messrs. Arthur Dean and Metzger. Dean is a lawyer, a partner of Sullivan and Cromwell and is representing the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey in the proceedings against the American oil companies in the Middle East, arising out of the charge they have violated the Sherman Anti-Trust Law and other statutes. This, in turn, springs from the publication of the Federal Trade Commission report on operations of oil companies in the Middle East.

Judge Kirkland is now hearing the motion of the oil companies to quash the subpoenas issued for their records by the Department of Justice. Shortly a presentment to the grand jury will be made, charging the same companies with criminal acts.

B1-EC

Dean had nothing specific to suggest. We have been following this matter with close attention in the Department, and I shall recommend to the Secretary that one of our lawyers be assigned to work full time on it.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY LEE DATE 7-1-81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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Jim Webb came to lunch with me. He thinks the Stevenson-Eisenhower contest is so close at the present time that one can make no prediction as to the result. A few weeks ago he had thought [redacted] Stevenson would win quite easily.

I talked to Messrs. Byroade and Nitze before we all met Mr. Alton Jones of Cities Service, who had come down to see us at our invitation. We had a long and interesting conversation with him about his experiences in Iran. With the exception of certain statements of a somewhat indiscreet nature [redacted] he is said to have made to the press, I think he handled himself [redacted] well. According to him, there is still a prospect of settling this dispute on a reasonable basis, and he has stimulated our thoughts along possible new lines.

George Pratt, my old friend of OSS days, [redacted] now in the Bureau of Reclamation of the Department of the Interior, called on me for help in accelerating the issuance of a passport to enable him to inspect some of the TCA establishments in the Middle East.

Avis Bohlen came to dinner, and she and E. went off to a parent-teacher's meeting at the Beauvoir School.

I went down at 10:15 to Dean's house where Hank Byroade and Oliver Franks joined us.

I got home after midnight.

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